21st December 1953]

Season tickets for travel in Government buses.

* 189 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have issued orders to the Commissioner of Transport to issue season tickets to passengers travelling in the buses in the City of Madras? 11-50 a.m.

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" An experiment of issuing season tickets on two routes was tried for three months. The response was not adequate. The experiment is being continued till the end of 1953 on one of the two routes, with the charge reduced by one rupee."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" டிராம் வண்டிகள் மீண்டும் ஓடுவது சாத்தியமில்லாத காரணத்தால் சர்க்கார் பஸ்களில் மத்தியதர வகுப்பாருக்கும், கீழ்த்தர உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும், தொழிலாளிகளுக்கும் சீசன் டிக்கட் வழங்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் உத்திரவிட முன்வருமா ?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, the season ticket is there. My complaint is that people are not buying season tickets in sufficient and large numbers. I should be thankful if my hon. Friend will add to the propaganda on my behalf about the availability of season tickets."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The Hon. Minister accuses us that there is no adequate response from the public. May I add, Sir, that the department has not given sufficient publicity to the existence of season tickets. The availability of season tickets was never published anywhere except for one day in a newspaper. Will the Government consider the desirability of giving proper publicity through their Transport Department, through their drivers and conductors and through other agencies? The fault lies with the Government and not with the people? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" We made whatever propaganda, we thought, was sufficient, I am sure the debate raised in the Assembly and the remarks of my Friend will add to the propaganda value."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" Will the Government consider the feasibility of reducing the rate for a season ticket as that is the best means of propaganda to induce people to buy it? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, the present rate of a season ticket is considered uneconomical. If I were to reduce it further, I am afraid that the fate that overtook the tramways will overtake the Government transport also."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" சாதாரண தொழிலாளிகளுக்கும், நடுத்தர சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும், சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் டிராம்களில் வசூலித்த சீசன் டிக்கட் கட்டணத்தையே பஸ்களிலும் வசூலிக்க விதிக்க சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have just answered the question. The hon. Member did not, evidently, follow it. I do not hope he wants the fate of the tramways to overtake the State Transport."